Adopted

Rejected

## MINORITY COMMITTEE REPORT

## MR. SPEAKER:

A minority of your Committee on <u>Judiciary</u>, which met on February 7, 2005, to consider House Bill 1703, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill be amended as follows: 1 Page 1, between the title and the enacting clause, begin a new 2 paragraph and insert: 3 "Whereas, An electoral system for selecting superior courts judges 4 has worked well in Indiana. 5 Whereas, Citizens prefer to elect superior court judges rather than 6 having judges selected by nomination or other means. Whereas, The electoral system for selecting superior court judges 8 has resulted in a more diverse bench in Marion County than when 9 superior court judges were nominated. 10 Whereas, A nonpartisan electoral process ensures that participation 11 in political party activities is not a qualification for holding judicial 12 office. 13 Whereas, judicial candidates should not be soliciting substantial 14 financial contributions from lawyers and other individuals. 15 Whereas, the reasons for having a nonpartisan electoral process 16 with restrictions on campaign contributions apply equally to all

1	counties: Therefore,".
2	Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert the
3	following:
4	SECTION 1. IC 3-9-2-14 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
5	AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
6	JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 14. (a) The limitations in this section are in
7	addition to any other limitation imposed by law.
8	(b) As used in this section, "office" refers to a local office of
9	judge of a circuit, superior, probate, county, or small claims court.
10	(c) During any two (2) year period beginning after December
11	31, 2005, a person may not make total contributions exceeding fifty
12	dollars (\$50), in total, to:
13	(1) one (1) candidate; and
14	(2) one (1) candidate's committee;
15	for an office.
16	(d) During any two (2) year period beginning after December
17	31, 2005, a person may not make total contributions exceeding two
18	hundred dollars (\$200), in total, to:
19	(1) all candidates; and
20	(2) all candidates' committees;
21	for an office.
22	SECTION 2. IC 33-23-1-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
23	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 3. "Commission on
24	judicial qualifications" except as used in IC 33-33-71, means the
25	commission described in Article 7, Section 9 of the Constitution of the
26	State of Indiana.
27	SECTION 3. IC 33-23-1-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
28	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 7. "Judicial nominating
29	commission", except as used in IC 33-33-2, IC 33-33-45, and
30	IC 33-33-71, means the commission described in Article 7, Section 9
31	of the Constitution of the State of Indiana.
32	SECTION 4. IC 33-29-1-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
33	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 3. (a) A standard
34	superior court judge is elected at the general election every six (6) years
35	in the county in which the court is located as provided in IC 33-29-7.
36	(b) Subsections (c) through (d) apply only to a county if the
37	voters of the county have not approved a public question on
	voters of the county have not approved a public question on

1	nonpartisan election under IC 33-29-7.
2	(c) The judge's term begins January 1 following the election and
3	ends December 31 following the election of the judge's successor.
4	(b) (d) To be eligible to hold office as a judge of a standard
5	superior court, a person must be:
6	(1) a resident of the county in which the court is located;
7	(2) less than seventy (70) years of age at the time the judge takes
8	office; and
9	(3) admitted to practice law in Indiana.
10	SECTION 5. IC 33-29-7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
11	AS A NEW CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
12	JULY 1, 2005]:
13	Chapter 7. Election of Superior Court Judges
14	Sec. 1. (a) A judge of a superior court established under
15	IC 33-33 shall be initially elected in a nonpartisan election and is
16	subject to a retention vote every six (6) years as provided in this
17	chapter, if:
18	(1) a majority of the board of county commissioners votes to
19	have the voters of the county vote on a public question to
20	determine whether a judge of a superior court shall be
21	elected in a nonpartisan election; and
22	(2) a public question on whether a judge of a superior court
23	shall be elected in a nonpartisan election is voted upon by the
24	voters of the county in which the superior court is located,
25	and the outcome requires an election.
26	(b) A judge's term begins January 1 following the election and
27	ends December 31 following the election of the judge's successor.
28	Sec. 2. During the period under IC 3-8-2-4 in which a
29	declaration of candidacy may be filed for a primary election, a
30	person desiring to become a candidate for a superior court
31	judgeship must file with the election division a declaration of
32	candidacy adapted from the form prescribed under IC 3-8-2 signed
33	by the candidate and designating which judgeship the candidate
34	seeks. A petition without the designation shall be rejected by the
35	election division (or by the Indiana election commission under
36	IC 3-8-1-2).
37	Sec. 3. To be eligible for election, a candidate must be:
2 Q	(1) dominilad in

1	(A) the county in which the superior court is located; or
2	(B) for the Ohio and Switzerland superior court, Ohio
3	County or Switzerland County;
4	(2) a citizen of the United States; and
5	(3) admitted to the practice of law in Indiana.
6	Sec. 4. If an individual who files a declaration under section 2
7	of this chapter ceases to be a candidate after the final date for filing
8	a declaration under section 2 of this chapter, the election division
9	may accept the filing of additional declarations of candidacy for
0	that judgeship not later than noon August 1.
1	Sec. 5. All candidates for each respective judgeship shall be
2	listed on the general election ballot in the form prescribed by
3	IC 3-11-2 and without party designation. The candidate receiving
4	the highest number of votes for each judgeship shall be elected to
5	that office.
6	Sec. 6. IC 3, where not inconsistent with this chapter, applies
7	to elections under this chapter.
8	SECTION 6. IC 33-33-2-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
9	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 8. (a) The Allen
20	superior court consists of nine (9) judges as follows:
21	(1) Two (2) judges serve in the family relations division.
22	(2) Three (3) judges serve in the criminal division.
23	(3) Four (4) judges serve in the civil division.
24	A newly elected or appointed judge assumes the division assignment of
25	the judge whom the judge replaces.
26	(b) If in the opinion of a majority of the judges there is an undue
27	disparity in the number of cases in any division, the chief judge may
28	assign specific cases normally assigned to that division to a judge in
29	another division as directed by a majority of the judges.
0	(c) Subsections (d) through (f) apply only if the voters of the
1	county have not approved a public question on whether a judge of
52	a superior court shall be elected in a nonpartisan election under
3	IC 33-29-7.
4	(d) During the period under IC 3-8-2-4 in which a declaration of
55	candidacy may be filed for a primary election, any person desiring to
6	become a candidate for one (1) of the Allen superior court judgeships
7	must file with the election division a declaration of candidacy adapted
8	from the form prescribed under IC 3-8-2 that:

1	(1) is signed by the candidate; and
2	(2) designates the division and the name of the incumbent judge
3	of the judgeship that the candidate seeks.
4	(d) (e) A petition without the designation required under
5	subsection (c) shall be rejected by the election division (or by the
6	Indiana election commission under IC 3-8-1-2).
7	(e) (f) If an individual who files a declaration under subsection (c)
8	ceases to be a candidate after the final date for filing a declaration under
9	subsection (c), the election division may accept the filing of additional
10	declarations of candidacy for that seat not later than noon on August 1
11	SECTION 7. IC 33-33-10-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
12	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 3. (a) There are
13	established three (3) superior courts in Clark County, each of which
14	consists of one (1) judge.
15	(b) Subsections (c) through (d) apply only if the voters of the
16	county have not approved a public question on whether a judge of
17	a superior court shall be elected in a nonpartisan election under
18	IC 33-29-7.
19	(c) who A judge under subsection (a) shall hold the judge's office
20	for a term of six (6) years, beginning on the first day of January after
21	the judge's election, and until the judge's successor is elected and
22	qualified.
23	(b) (d) To be eligible to hold office as a judge of Clark superior
24	court, a person must be:
25	(1) a resident of Clark County; and
26	(2) admitted to the bar of Indiana.
27	SECTION 8. IC 33-33-27.3-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
28	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 3. (a) The court has
29	one (1) judge.
30	(b) Subsections (c) through (d) apply only if the voters of the
31	county have not approved a public question on whether a judge of
32	a superior court shall be elected in a nonpartisan election under
33	IC 33-29-7.
34	(c) A judge described under subsection (a) who shall be elected
35	at the general election every six (6) years in Grant County. The judge's
36	term begins January 1 following the election and ends December 31
37	following the election of the judge's successor.

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(b) (d) To be eligible to hold office as a judge of the court, a

1	person must be:
2	(1) a resident of Grant County;
3	(2) less than seventy (70) years of age at the time of taking
4	office; and
5	(3) admitted to the practice of law in Indiana.
6	SECTION 9. IC 33-33-45-26 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
7	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 26. (a) The superior
8	court of Lake County consists of sixteen (16) judges plus the Lake
9	circuit court judge if the circuit court judge chooses to sit on the
10	superior court of Lake County.
11	(b) A superior court judge is elected as provided in IC 33-29-7
12	if the voters of the county have not approved a public question on
13	whether a judge of a superior court shall be elected in a
14	nonpartisan election under IC 33-29-7.
15	SECTION 10. IC 33-33-46-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
16	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 3. (a) IC 33-29-1-3
17	does not apply to this section.
18	(b) (a) Each LaPorte superior court has one (1) judge.
19	(b) Subsections (c) through (e) apply only if the voters of the
20	county have not approved a public question on whether a judge of
21	a superior court shall be elected in a nonpartisan election under
22	IC 33-29-7.
23	(c) IC 33-29-1-3 does not apply to this section.
24	(d) A judge under subsection (a) who shall be elected at the
25	general election every six (6) years in LaPorte County. Each judge's
26	term begins January 1 following the election and ends December 31
27	following the election of the judge's successor.
28	(c) (e) To be eligible to hold office as judge of any of the courts,
29	a person must:
30	(1) be a resident of LaPorte County; and
31	(2) be admitted to the bar of Indiana.
32	SECTION 11. IC 33-33-49-13 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
33	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 13. (a) Each judge of
34	the court shall be elected for a term of six (6) years that begins January
35	1 after the year of the judge's election and continues through December
36	31 in the sixth year. The judge shall hold office for the six (6) year term
37	or until the judge's successor is elected and qualified. A candidate for

judge shall run at large for the office of judge of the court and not as a

candidate for judge of a particular room or division of the court.

- (b) Subsections (c) through (f) apply only if the voters of the county have not approved a public question on whether a judge of a superior court shall be elected in a nonpartisan election under IC 33-29-7.
- (c) Each judge of the court shall be elected for a term of six (6) years that begin January 1, after the year of the judge's election and continues through December 31, in the sixth year.
- (b) (d) Beginning with the primary election held in 2000 and every six (6) years thereafter, a political party may nominate not more than nine (9) candidates for judge of the court. The candidates shall be voted on at the general election. Other candidates may qualify under IC 3-8-6 to be voted on at the general election.
- (c) (e) The names of the party candidates nominated and properly certified to the Marion County election board, along with the names of other candidates who have qualified, shall be placed on the ballot at the general election in the form prescribed by IC 3-11-2. Beginning with the 2000 general election and every six (6) years thereafter, persons eligible to vote at the general election may vote for seventeen (17) candidates for judge of the court.
- (d) (f) The candidates for judge of the court receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected to the vacancies. The names of the candidates elected as judges of the court shall be certified to the county election board as provided by law.
- SECTION 12. IC 33-33-56-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 3. (a) IC 33-29-1-3 does not apply to this section.
  - (b) The Newton superior court has one (1) judge.
- (b) Subsections (c) through (d) apply only if the voters of the county have not approved a public question on whether a judge of a superior court shall be elected in a nonpartisan election under IC 33-29-7.
- (c) who A judge described in subsection (a) shall be elected at the general election every six (6) years in Newton County. The judge's term begins January 1 following the judge's election and ends December 31 following the election of the judge's successor.
- (c) (d) To be eligible to hold office as judge of the Newton superior court, a person must:

1	(1) be a resident of Newton County; and
2	(2) be admitted to the bar of Indiana.
3	SECTION 13. IC 33-33-67-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
4	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 3. (a) <del>IC</del> <del>33-29-1-3</del>
5	does not apply to this section.
6	(b) The Putnam superior court has one (1) judge.
7	(b) Subsections (c) through (d) apply only if the voters of the
8	county have not approved a public question on whether a judge of
9	a superior court shall be elected in a nonpartisan election under
10	IC 33-29-7.
11	(c) who A judge described in subsection (a) shall be elected at
12	the general election every six (6) years in Putnam County. The judge's
13	term begins January 1 following the election and ends December 31
14	following the election of the judge's successor.
15	(c) (d) To be eligible to hold office as a judge of the court, a
16	person must be:
17	(1) a resident of Putnam County; and
18	(2) admitted to the practice of law in Indiana.
19	SECTION 14. IC 33-33-71-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
20	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 5. (a) There is
21	established a superior court in St. Joseph County. The court consists of
22	eight (8) judges
23	(b) If the voters of the county have approved a public question
24	on whether a judge of a superior court shall be elected in a
25	nonpartisan election under IC 33-29-7, a judge described in
26	subsection (a) shall be elected as provided in IC 33-29-7.
27	SECTION 15. IC 33-33-79.3-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
28	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 3. (a) The court has
29	one (1) judge.
30	(b) Subsections (c) through (d) apply only if the voters of the
31	county have not approved a public question on whether a judge of
32	a superior court shall be elected in a nonpartisan election under
33	IC 33-29-7.
34	(c) who A judge described in subsection (a) shall be elected at
35	the general election every six (6) years in Tippecanoe County. The
36	judge's term begins January 1 following the election and ends
37	December 31 following the election of the judge's successor.

(b) (d) To be eligible to hold office as judge of the court, a person

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1	must:
2	(1) be a resident of Tippecanoe County;
3	(2) be less than seventy (70) years of age at the time of taking
4	office; and
5	(3) be admitted to the bar of Indiana.
6	SECTION 16. IC 33-33-79.4-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
7	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 3. (a) Tippecanoe
8	superior court No. 4, No. 5, and No. 6 each has one (1) judge.
9	(b) Subsections (c) through (d) apply only if the voters of the
10	county have not approved a public question on whether a judge of
11	a superior court shall be elected in a nonpartisan election under
12	IC 33-29-7.
13	(c) who A judge described in subsection (a) shall be elected at
14	the general election every six (6) years in Tippecanoe County. The
15	judge's term begins January 1 following the election and ends
16	December 31 following the election of the judge's successor.
17	(b) (d) To be eligible to hold office as judge of the court, a person
18	must be:
19	(1) a resident of Tippecanoe County;
20	(2) less than seventy (70) years of age at the time of taking
21	office; and
22	(3) admitted to the bar of Indiana.
23	SECTION 17. IC 33-33-82-31 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
24	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 31. (a) The judge of the
25	Vanderburgh circuit court and each of the seven (7) judges of the
26	Vanderburgh superior court shall be elected in nonpartisan elections
27	every six (6) years.
28	(b) During the period under IC 3-8-2-4 in which a declaration of
29	candidacy may be filed for a primary election, any person desiring to
30	become a candidate for any one (1) of the eight (8) judgeships affected
31	by this chapter the circuit court judgeship shall file with the election
32	division a declaration of candidacy adapted from the form prescribed
33	under IC 3-8-2, signed by the candidate and designated which
34	judgeship the candidate seeks. Any petition without the designation
35	shall be rejected by the election division (or by the Indiana election
36	commission under IC 3-8-1-2). To be eligible for election, a candidate
37	must be:
38	(1) domiciled in the county of Vanderburgh;

(2) a citizen of the United States; and

- (3) admitted to the practice of law in Indiana.
- (c) If an individual who files a declaration under subsection (b) ceases to be a candidate after the final date for filing a declaration under subsection (b), the election division may accept the filing of additional declarations of candidacy for that judgeship not later than noon August 1.
- (d) All candidates for each respective the judgeship shall be listed on the general election ballot in the form prescribed by IC 3-11-2, without party designation. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes for each judgeship shall be elected to that office.
- (e) IC 3, where not inconsistent with this chapter, applies to elections under this chapter.
- (f) Subsections (g) through (k) apply only if the voters of the county have not approved a public question on whether a judge of a superior court shall be elected in a nonpartisan election under IC 33-29-7. If voters of the county have approved the public question under IC 33-29-7, subsections (a) through (e) apply.
- (g) The judge of the Vanderburgh circuit court and each of the seven (7) judges of the Vanderburgh superior court shall be elected in nonpartisan elections every six (6) years.
- (h) During the period under IC 3-8-2-4 in which a declaration of candidacy may be filed for a primary election, any person desiring to become a candidate for any one (1) of the eight (8) judgeships affected by this chapter shall file with the election division a declaration of candidacy adapted from the form prescribed under IC 3-8-2, signed by the candidate and designated which judgeship the candidate seeks. Any petition without the designation shall be rejected by the election division (or by the Indiana election commission under IC 3-8-1-2). To be eligible for election, a candidate must be:
  - (1) domiciled in the county of Vanderburgh;
- (2) a citizen of the United States; and
  - (3) admitted to the practice of law in Indiana.
  - (i) If an individual who files a declaration under subsection (b) ceases to be a candidate after the final date for filing a declaration under subsection (b), the election division may accept the filing of additional declarations of candidacy for that judgeship not later

than noon August 1. 1 2 (j) All candidates for each respective judgeship shall be listed 3 on the general election ballot in the form prescribed by IC 3-11-2, 4 without party designation. The candidate receiving the highest 5 number of votes for each judgeship shall be elected to that office. (k) IC 3, where not inconsistent with this chapter, applies to 6 7 elections under this chapter. SECTION 18. IC 33-33-89.3-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS 8 9 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: Sec. 3. (a) The court has 10 one (1) judge. (b) Subsections (c) through (f) apply only if the voters of the 11 12 county have not approved a public question on whether a judge of 13 a superior court shall be elected in a nonpartisan election under 14 IC 33-29-7. 15 (c) who A judge described in subsection (a) shall be elected at 16 the general election every six (6) years in Wayne County. The judge's term begins January 1 following the judge's election and ends 17 18 December 31 following the election of the judge's successor. 19 (b) (d) To be eligible to hold office as judge of the court, a person 20 must: 21 (1) be a resident of Wayne County; 22 (2) be less than seventy (70) years of age at the time the person 23 takes office; 24 (3) be admitted to the bar of Indiana; and 25 (4) have practiced law at least five (5) years. 26 SECTION 19. THE FOLLOWING ARE REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005]: IC 33-33-2-9; IC 33-33-2-10; 27 IC 33-33-45-25; IC 33-33-45-26; IC 33-33-45-27; IC 33-33-45-28; 28 29 IC 33-33-45-29; IC 33-33-45-30; IC 33-33-45-31; IC 33-33-45-32; IC 33-33-45-33; IC 33-33-45-34; IC 33-33-45-35; IC 33-33-45-36; 30 31 IC 33-33-45-37; IC 33-33-45-38; IC 33-33-45-39; IC 33-33-45-40; IC 33-33-45-41; IC 33-33-45-42; IC 33-33-45-43; IC 33-33-45-44; 32 33 IC 33-33-71-29; IC 33-33-71-30; IC 33-33-71-31; IC 33-33-71-32; 34 IC 33-33-71-33; IC 33-33-71-34; IC 33-33-71-35; IC 33-33-71-36; 35 IC 33-33-71-37; IC 33-33-71-38; IC 33-33-71-39; IC 33-33-71-40; 36 IC 33-33-71-41; IC 33-33-71-42; IC 33-33-71-43; IC 33-33-71-44; 37 IC 33-33-71-45; IC 33-33-71-46; IC 33-33-71-47; IC 33-33-71-48;

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IC 33-33-71-49; IC 33-33-71-50; IC 33-33-71-51; IC 33-33-71-52;

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IC 33-33-71-53; IC 33-33-71-54; IC 33-33-71-55; IC 33-33-71-56; IC 33-33-71-57; IC 33-33-71-58; IC 33-33-71-59; IC 33-33-71-60; IC 33-33-71-61; IC 33-33-71-62; IC 33-33-71-63; IC 33-33-71-64; IC 33-33-71-65; IC 33-33-71-66; IC 33-33-71-67; IC 33-33-71-68; IC 34-46-2-30.4.

SECTION 20. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005] (a) Notwithstanding the amendment and repeal by this act of provisions in IC 33, the term of a superior court judge elected or appointed under IC 33 in office on June 30, 2005, does not terminate until the date that the judge's term would have terminated under the law in effect on June 30, 2005.

(b) The initial election of a superior court judge described in subsection (a) under IC 33-29-7, as added by this act, is the general election immediately preceding the date on which the term of the judge would have terminated under the law in effect on June 30, 2005, if a public question on whether a judge of a superior court shall be elected in a nonpartisan election is voted upon by the voters of the county in which the superior court is located, and the outcome requires an election.

(c) If:

- (1) a superior court judge is in office; and
- (2) a public question on whether a judge of a superior court shall be elected in a nonpartisan election is voted upon by the voters of the county in which the superior court is located, and the outcome requires an election;

the superior court judge who is in office at the time of the vote is subject to a retention vote and not a partisan or nonpartisan election.

(d) This SECTION expires January 2, 2011.

SECTION 21. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005] Notwithstanding SECTION 19 of this act, the statutes repealed in SECTION 19 of this act, as those statutes are in effect on June 30, 2005, continue to apply to a county unless the voters of the county have approved a public question on whether a judge of a superior court shall be elected in a nonpartisan election under IC 33-29-7.

SECTION 22. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2005] (a) The legislative services agency shall prepare legislation for introduction in the 2006 regular session of the general assembly to organize and

1 correct statutes affected by the requirement that all superior court 2 judges be elected and the requirement that public questions on the 3 election of superior court judges be placed on the ballot as provided 4 in IC 33-29-7, as added by this act. 5 (b) This SECTION expires July 1, 2006. (Reference is to HB 1703 as introduced.) and when so amended that said bill do pass. Representative Orentlicher